

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Number Resource Optimization	§	CC Docket No. 99-200
	§	
Implementation of the Local Competition	§	CC Docket No. 99-98
Provisions of the Telecommunications Act	§	
of 1996	§	
	§	
Telephone Number Portability	§	CC Docket No. 95-116
	§	

**COMMENTS OF
TEXAS STATEWIDE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.**

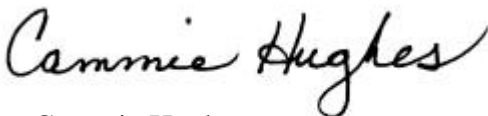
Texas Statewide Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (TSTCI) hereby files these comments in the above-captioned proceeding. TSTCI is an association representing 19 telephone cooperatives and 16 commercial companies (please see Attachment I). All TSTCI member companies are regulated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

TSTCI is filing this letter to indicate its support of the responses filed by the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) in this project. TSTCI concurs with NTCA's request to the Commission to exempt all rural incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) with switches in the top 100 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) from local number portability (LNP) and thousand block number pooling until the ILEC receives a request for LNP from a competing carrier. If required to implement LNP before requested to do so, rural ILECs may see an increase in their cost of service to rural customers.

In the interest of not unnecessarily burdening the record in this project, TSTCI is simply indicating its concurrence and support of the responses filed by NTCA.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS STATEWIDE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
3721 Executive Center Drive, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78731



Cammie Hughes
Member Services Director

05/20/02

TEXAS STATEWIDE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

Brazos Telecommunications, Inc.
Brazos Telephone Coop., Inc.
Cameron Telephone Company
Cap Rock Telephone Coop., Inc.
Central Texas Telephone Coop., Inc.
Coleman County Telephone Coop., Inc.
Colorado Valley Telephone Coop., Inc.
Comanche County Telephone Company, Inc.
Community Telephone Company, Inc.
Cumby Telephone Coop., Inc.
Dell Telephone Coop., Inc.
E.N.M.R. Plateau Communications, Inc.
Eastex Telephone Coop., Inc.
Electra Telephone Company
Etex Telephone Coop., Inc.
Five Area Telephone Coop., Inc.
Ganado Telephone Company, Inc.
La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.
Lake Livingston Telephone Company
Lipan Telephone Company
Livingston Telephone Company
Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.
Nortex Communications, Inc.
North Texas Telephone Company
Panhandle Telephone Coop., Inc.
Peoples Telephone Coop., Inc.
Riviera Telephone Company, Inc.
Santa Rosa Telephone Coop., Inc.
South Plains Telephone Coop., Inc.
Tatum Telephone Company
Taylor Telephone Coop., Inc.
Wes-Tex Telephone Coop., Inc.
West Plains Telecommunications, Inc.
West Texas Rural Tel. Coop., Inc.
XIT Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.